

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 00306 110602Z

15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 /088 W

----- 103553

R 110426Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2558

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 0306

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOD, TC, US

SUBJECT: REPORT OF SECRETARY'S INTENTION VISIT GULF

1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT-DAILY AL ITTIHAD MORNING FEB 10 CARRIES BANNER HEADLINE "KISSINGER TO VISIT UAE". STORY, WHICH ALSO DEALS WITH CURRENT MIDDLE EAST SWING BY SECRETARY, DRAWS ON KUWAITI SOURCES (PRE-SUMABLY SAME REPORT CARRIED BBC EVENING FEB 9) TO EFFECT THAT VISIT TO KUWAIT AS WELL AS FOUR LOWER GULF STATES WILL TAKE PLACE IN MARCH. KUWAIT REPORT PUTS VISIT IN CONTEXT CONSUMER-PRODUCER DIALOGUE, BUT END OF AL ITTIHAD ARTICLE CITES SPECULATION FROM BEIRUT SOURCES THAT SECRETARY SEEKING CALM WATERS STIRRED BY ALLEGED USG THREATS AGAINST AREA EARLIER THIS YEAR.

2. COMMENT: TREATMENT WHICH GOVERNMENT GAVE THIS STORY-- WHICH OBVIOUSLY HAS NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION--TENDS EMPHASIZE POINT WE HAVE MADE PREVIOUSLY ABOUT UAE SEEKING RECOGNITION OF ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE. THIS GOVERNMENT CRAVES STATUS WHICH

VISIT OF PERSON OF SECRETARY'S STATURE WOULD GIVE-PARTICULARLY
WHEN PUT IN CONTEXT OF VISIT ESPECIALLY TO "GULF" RATHER THAN AS
TAIL END OF TRIP TO MORE PROMINENT AREA STATES. WHAT HAPPENS IF
VISIT FAILS MATERIALIZE IS ANOTHER PROBLEM, BUT PERHAPS GOVERNMENT
HOPES PRESENT PUBLICITY WILL BE SELF-FULFILLING MARCH.
STERNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ABUDH00306
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750048-1082
From: ABU DHABI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750255/aaaabxke.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <21 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORT OF SECRETARY'S INTENTION VISIT GULF
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, TC, US, XF, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006